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Name:

Signature:

DEBORAH C. ROBERTS

Clifford Chance Rogers & Wells LLP

Docket No. 5974-101

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Nicholas Esposito

Filed: December 17, 2001

Group Art Unit: Not yet known

Serial No: Filed herewith

Examiner: Not yet known

For: Conflict Resolution For Collaborative Work System

JC972 U.S. PTO  
10/021916  
12/17/01

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
2900 Crystal Drive  
Arlington, VA 22202-3513

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's consideration of the cited reference and entry into the record of this application and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

*for Foreign Search Reports (and cited non-English references)*

Also enclosed is a Foreign Search Report issued on \_\_\_\_\_ for a foreign counterpart of the present patent application, in which the presently disclosed references were cited. Since a translation of the Search Report is also enclosed, it is believed that the applicants in the above-identified patent application have now met the "concise explanation" requirement of 35 C.F.R. 1.98.

*for Foreign Office Actions*

Also enclosed is an office action for a counterpart foreign application, and a translation of that office action into the English language. This office action cites the foreign language documents on the attached Form 1449 and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. As a result, the "concise explanation," as required 37 CFR 1.98(3), has been provided. MPEP §609 A.

*No fee due – submission prior to 1<sup>st</sup> action*

The present Information Disclosure Statement has been submitted prior to the receipt of an Office Action in this application. Accordingly, no fee is due. However, in the event that a first Office Action was mailed on or before the date of submission of this disclosure statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to deposit Account No. 50-0521.

*No fee due – submission of references cited in foreign search w/in 3 months*

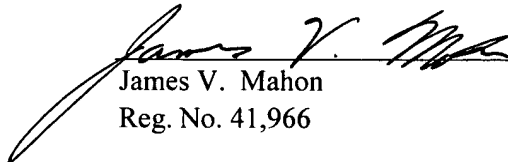
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after a First Action, but prior to a Notice of Allowance or Final Rejection. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), it is certified that the none of the presently disclosed documents were known to the applicant or any party representing the applicant, or were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application more than three months prior to the date of submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no additional fee is required for consideration of these documents. However, in the event that additional fees are due for consideration of these documents, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to deposit Account No. 50-0521.

*Fee for submission of IDS after 1<sup>st</sup> action*

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the Commissioner is authorized to charge the statutory fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) and any additional fees required in connection with this Petition or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0521. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Date: Dec 17, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

  
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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)	Serial No. Filed herewith
	Inventors: Nicholas Esposito
	Docket No. 5974-101

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

30972 U.S. PTO  
 10/02/1916  
 12/17/01

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.
		W. Keith Edwards, Flexible Conflict Detection and Management in Collaborative Applications, 1997
		Saul Greenberg and David Marwood, Real Time Groupware as a Distributed System: Concurrency Control and its Effect on the Interface, 1994
		Bentley et al., Basic Support for Cooperative Work on the World Wide Web, 1997
		Dourish and Bellotti, Awareness and Coordination in Shared Work Spaces, 1991
		Greenberg and Roseman, Groupware Toolkits for Synchronous Work, 1996
		Ricardo Galli, Data Consistency Methods for Collaborative 3D Editing, 2000
		Bhola, Banavar, and Ahamad, Responsiveness and Consistency Tradeoffs in Interactive Groupware, 1998
		Bhola and Ahamad, Phase Timestamping for Replica Consistency in Interactive Collaborative Applications, 1999

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED Dec 17, 2001
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	